



**National  
Transportation  
Safety Board**

# **NTSB Update to the Twin Cessna Flyer Annual Convention**

Robert Sumwalt  
April 28, 2016



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EventDate	Location	InjurySeverity	AircraftDamage	RegistrationNumber	Make	Model
12/13/2015	Kennesaw, GA	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N7675Q	CESSNA	310
10/23/2015	Primm, NV	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N310CD	CESSNA	310C
10/14/2015	Amarillo, TX	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N19CH	CESSNA	421
10/14/2015	Hammond, LA	Fatal(2)	Destroyed	N33FA	CESSNA	421B
10/10/2015	Tucson, AZ	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N3123L	CESSNA	310J
09/21/2015	Platteville, WI	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N813CA	CESSNA	421B
08/26/2015	Titusville, FL	Fatal(1)	Destroyed	N90PS	CESSNA	310R
08/08/2015	VEREDA GUARIGUA CAJICA, Colo	Fatal(3)	Substantial		CESSNA	402B
07/12/2015	South St. Paul, MN	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N5139J	CESSNA	340
04/17/2015	Diboll, TX	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N421PK	CESSNA	421B
04/07/2015	Bloomington, IL	Fatal(7)	Substantial	N7500A	CESSNA	414A
03/20/2015	St. George, UT	Non-Fatal	Substantial		CESSNA	310Q
02/10/2015	Isla de Vieques, PR	Non-Fatal	Substantial		CESSNA	402C
01/28/2015	Rothville, MO	Non-Fatal	Substantial		CESSNA	310B
12/30/2014	Englewood, CO	Non-Fatal	Substantial		CESSNA	404
12/27/2014	Liberty, NC	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N177JD	CESSNA	310N
12/18/2014	San Antonio, TX	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N700MA	CESSNA	310J
11/17/2014	Fulk, TX	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N401ME	CESSNA	401A
10/24/2014	San Antonio, TX	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N310WL	CESSNA	310R
08/27/2014	San Antonio, TX	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N101JB	CESSNA	310K
08/27/2014	San Antonio, TX	Fatal(4)	Destroyed	N51RX	CESSNA	421C
08/18/2014	El Paso, Texas	Fatal(4)	Destroyed	N340MM	CESSNA	340A
08/15/2014	Brown, TX	Fatal(2)	Destroyed	N127BC	CESSNA	414
06/26/2014	Maryland Heights, MO	Non-Fatal	Destroyed	N1552T	CESSNA	414
06/16/2014	Pleasanton, TX	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N1671T	CESSNA	414
05/24/2014	Dallas, TX	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N936U	CESSNA	421A
04/22/2014	Horseshoe Bay, TX	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N866BS	CESSNA	421
03/20/2014	Charleston, SC	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N5929M	CESSNA	421
03/14/2014	Stuart, FL	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N419AR	CESSNA	402B
03/08/2014	Wapakoneta, OH	Unavailable	Substantial	N69980	CESSNA	310Q
02/18/2014	Toussus-Le-Noble, France	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N876DT	CESSNA	340
01/28/2014	Aurora, CO	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N8133M	CESSNA	310I
01/23/2014	Ashland, MO	Non-Fatal	Substantial	N414CJ	CESSNA	414A



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# 2015 U.S. Aircraft Accidents

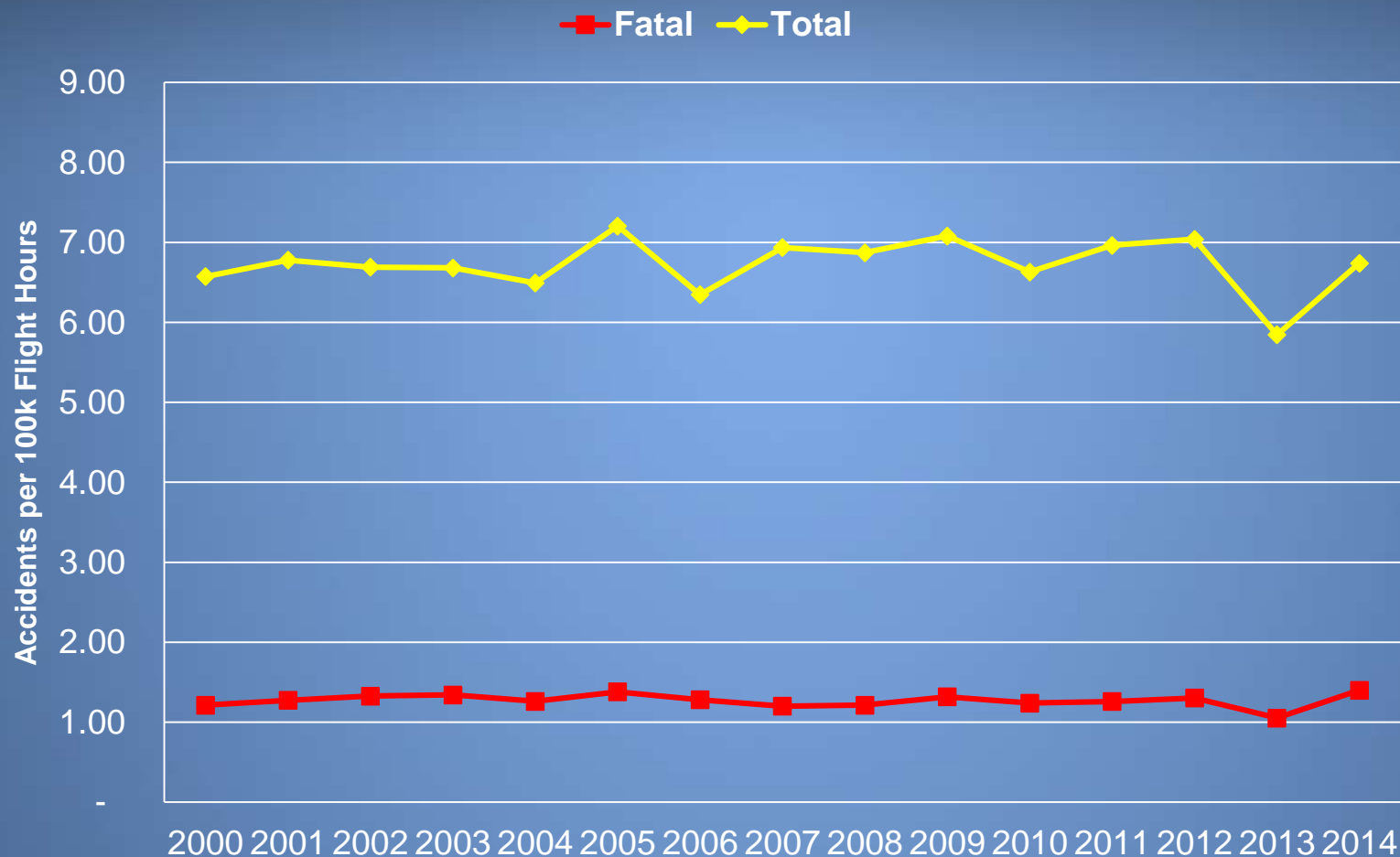
- U.S. Part 121 Carriers: 25 accidents (No majors)
  - 0 fatalities
- U.S. Part 135 Carriers: 43 accidents
  - 28 fatalities
- U.S. General Aviation: 1207 accidents
  - 377 fatalities

# GA Accident-involved Fatalities

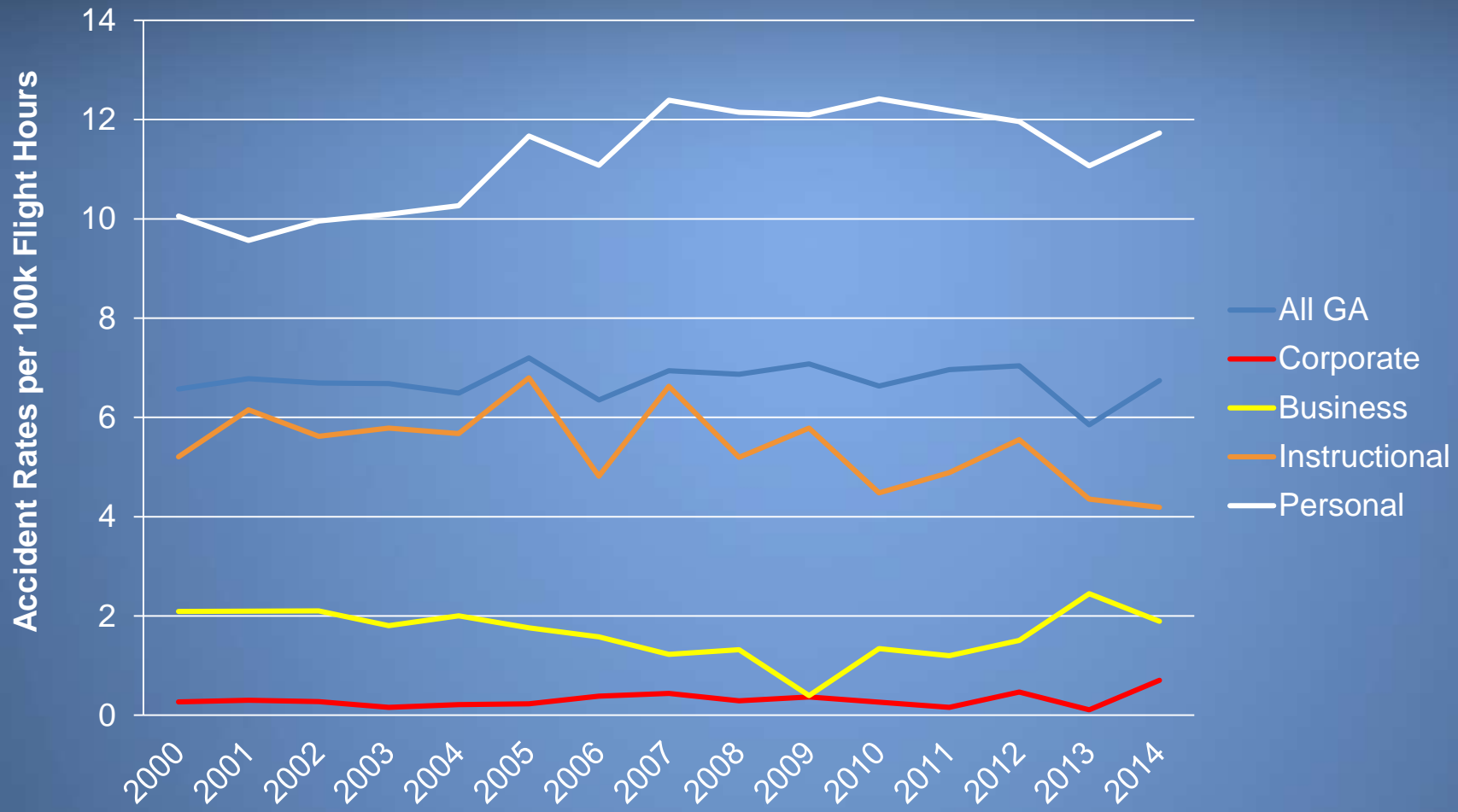




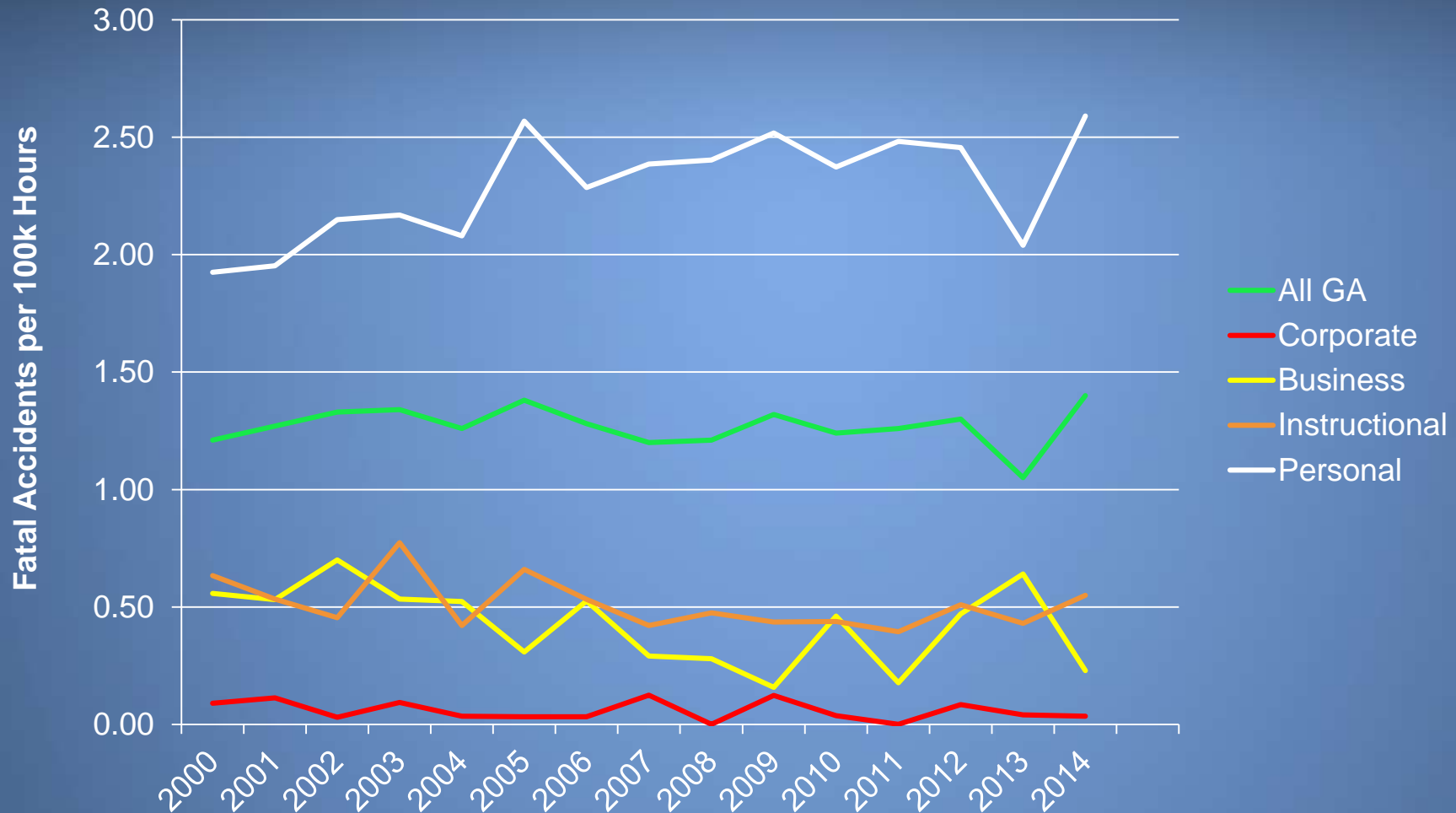
# GA Accident Rates



# Accident Rates per 100k Flight Hours



# Fatal Accident Rates per 100k Flight Hours



# Summarizing GA Accident Data

- Overall GA accident rate is flat
  - Little improvement over past decade
  - Airline accident rate decreased more than 80% in same period
- Personal flying accident rate
  - Increased 13% in past decade
  - Fatal accident rate increased more than 15% in same period

# Piston-Powered Twin Cessna Data\*

April 1, 2013 to April 1, 2016

46 accidents in U.S.

- 14 fatal accidents
- 37 fatalities

5 accidents in foreign countries

- 4 fatal accidents
- 10 fatalities



\*Does not include Cessna 337



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Aircraft Type	Number of Accidents	Number of Fatal Accidents
Cessna 303	1	1
Cessna 310	17	5
Cessna 340	10	5
Cessna 401	1	0
Cessna 402	4	1
Cessna 404	1	1
Cessna 414	6	2
Cessna 421	10	3
Cessna T50	1	1
Total	51	19





Cessna T-50



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[www.nts.gov](http://www.nts.gov)



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## NTSB News

NTSB will determine the probable cause of the April 19, 2016, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit (WMATA) Metrorail accident, during a board meeting here scheduled for May 11, 2016.

[Read More](#)

### Latest Report

4/19/2016 - : Safety Recommendation  
Report: Crash-Resistant Fuel Systems on  
Airbus Helicopters

4/18/2016 - : DCA16FR007\_prelim

4/5/2016 - : Preliminary Report: Railroad  
DCA16MR004

### Safety Compass Blog



Read the latest from the Safety Compass blog,  
The Official Blog of the NTSB Chairman

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Preliminary report on the April 19  
crash of a VANS RV12 in  
Stevensville, MD:  
[go.usa.gov/cuKJe](http://go.usa.gov/cuKJe)

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[Embed](#)

[View on Twitter](#)

### Upcoming Events

5/3/2016 - Board Meeting: Washington  
Metrorail Accident

5/10/2016 - Forum: Pedestrian Safety

5/14/2016 - Safety Seminar: Loss of  
Control: Training Solutions



### Speeches and Testimony

Board member and staff remarks  
concerning transportation safety:

Chairman Christopher Hart  
Vice Chairman T. Bella Dinh-Zarr  
Member Robert Sumwalt  
Member Earl F. Weener



# NTSB SAFETY ALERT

National Transportation Safety Board

## Pilots: Fueling Mistakes

*Learn how to detect if your aircraft has been misfueled*

### The problem

Misfueling can occur for a variety of reasons and typically results in a complete loss of engine power, which may lead to serious injuries and/or death.

- While fuel nozzles and fuel fillers are designed to prevent misfueling, our investigations have found numerous modifications that can allow misfueling to occur. For example, aviation gasoline (avgas) nozzles are small and round and fit into smaller opening fuel filler ports while jet fuel nozzles are larger and flattened like a duck's bill, requiring a larger fuel filler port (see figures 1 and 2). However, our investigations have shown that some fixed base operators (FBOs) are modifying their jet fuel nozzles with the smaller avgas nozzle or other smaller type nozzle, such as the round jet spout nozzle, to more easily fuel smaller turbine helicopters. These non-standard jet fuel nozzles can easily fit into the smaller filler ports of aircraft that require avgas and allow for misfueling to occur.
- When an aircraft is modified from using a reciprocating engine (avgas) to a turbine engine (jet fuel), some supplemental type certificates (STCs) have not required that the fuel filler port size be changed accordingly. As a result, line personnel have had to make accommodations such as installing an avgas fuel nozzle or round jet nozzle on a jet fuel truck to allow jet fuel into the smaller



Figure 1. Photograph of an avgas nozzle.



Figure 2. Photograph of Jet A fuel nozzle.



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# MISFUELING EPIDEMIC

by TTCC Staff

In April of this year, one of our members who owned a 1975 421B survived a crash landing due to a dual engine failure in IMC. His airplane had been misfueled with Jet A. His accident was the third misfueling accident to occur since August of 2014. The other two were fatal, and one of them involved another 421.



Misfueling accident in power costs are often fatal. The owner of this 421 was lucky to walk away with minor injuries.

This was a problem that we all thought would be solved back in 1987 when the FAA issued AD 87-21-01 which mandated the installation of fuel restrictors on aircraft using avgas. The restrictor was designed to prevent the wide "duck bill" Jet A fuel nozzle from fitting into the fuel tank. Surely this combined with clear labeling near the gas cap, would stop the rash of misfueling accidents, we all thought. Not so! The accident history shows there are multiple ways an aircraft can be misfueled. Here are a few:



Jet A Then Cessna fuel tank with the Jet A fuel restrictor installed. The restrictor is visible in the fuel tank. Is the restrictor installed on your airplane?

AD 87-21-01 may not have been complied with. Our member's aircraft did not have the fuel restrictor.

yet the AD had been signed off as complied with for the last 18 months. The most recent sign-off was by a nationally known Twin Cessna shop (not one that advertises with us). No one ever looked to see if the restrictor was installed - they just looked at the paperwork which said the AD had been complied with. Who knows what happened 18 years ago when it was originally signed off?

**The FBO may not have the proper fuel nozzles.** There have been multiple instances of this. In the case of our member's accident, the FBO had removed the duck billed nozzle and replaced with a smaller nozzle in order to make the refueling of military helicopters easier.

**The line man may not know what he's doing.** This has always been a problem. FBOs must provide training but it is often cursory. And for someone not intimately familiar with airplanes, telling the difference between a 421 and a 423 or King Air is challenging. In our member's case, the line man said he thought the 421 was a King Air. There have been instances where avgas airplanes with duck billed Jet A nozzles refueled with duck billed Jet A nozzles. You'd really have to work to make that happen and it illustrates that once a line man decides your airplane takes Jet A, he will do what it takes to fuel your airplane with it.

**The FBO may have mislabeled its trucks.** There have been instances of Jet A being



The Jet fuel nozzle on the left has a wide "duck bill" opening, a feature designed to prevent it from fitting into a fuel tank with the AD 87-21-01 restrictor installed.

in an avgas truck. A twist on this theme is that many FBOs park their fuel trucks in special parking places but misfueling has occurred when the Jet A truck was mistakenly parked in the Avgas truck space. The line man just grabs the truck in the avgas space and starts fueling.

**"Just looking at a fuel sample is not enough:**

**AVGAS + JET A = BLUE!"**

So how do we protect ourselves against misfueling? You may think the victims misfueling incidents didn't sump and examine their fuel. Avgas is blue and Jet A is clear or "straw" colored, right? Here's the kicker: a 50-50 mix of 100LL and Jet A is also blue. It may be slightly paler but you would not be able to tell the difference unless you held it up to pure 100LL.

**Just looking at a fuel sample is not enough: Avgas + Jet A = BLUE!**

So if a visual inspection is not sufficient, what can we do to ensure we have the correct fuel? Here is a list of things in order of importance:

1. **Always smell your fuel.** Jet A has a distinctive kerosene odor that will be present even in low percentage mixtures.
2. **Conduct the paper-staining test.** If you put a drop of avgas on a piece of white paper or a paper towel, within a few minutes it will evaporate completely leaving no stain whatsoever. If the sample has as little as 10% Jet A, it will leave a visible oily stain. If you see the stain, you've likely been misfueled.

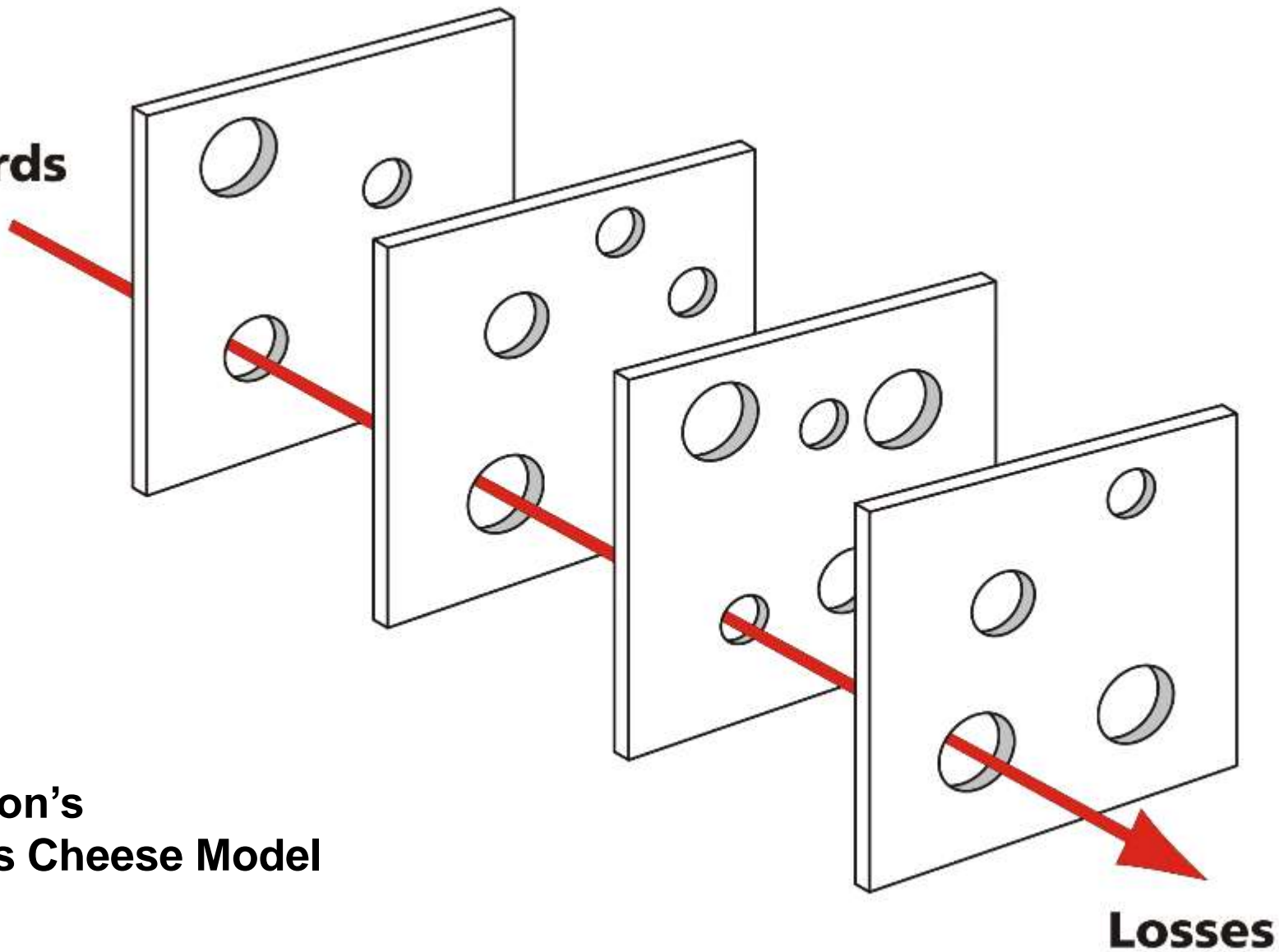
If you use a GATS jar to sample your fuel, you can test for jet fuel contamination in the same sort of way by blowing on the screen after taking a fuel sample. Avgas will evaporate while avgas contaminated



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**Hazards**

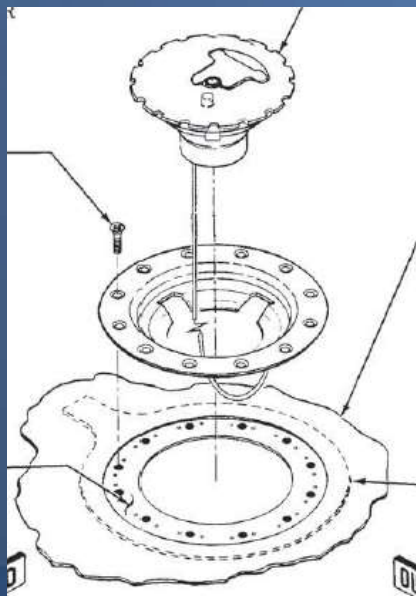
**Reason's  
Swiss Cheese Model**



**NTSB**



# Potential Layers of Defense



Philips 66 Aviation Fuel

Airport: LRU1  
Southwest Aviation Inc  
Las Cruces, NM

Transaction: 19:46:08  
08/27/2014

Ship Date: 08/27/2014

Ticket: 028551 Aircraft: N51RX

	Qty	Price
Aviation Gas	40	0.00
		\$ .00



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Las Cruces, NM

August 27, 2014

4 Fatal



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## **Problem:**

Standard jet fuel nozzle  
would not fit turbine-powered  
helicopter that was based at Las Cruces



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## **Work-around:**

Replace standard jet fuel nozzle with one typically used for Avgas.



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Fuel delivery slip  
showed Jet-A was  
delivered.

PINK copy of contemporaneously prepared  
Fuel Delivery ticket from the Jet Fuel Truck -  
The Delivery ticket from the Avgas Truck was a  
BLUE ticket

**SOUTHWEST  
AVIATION**

AIRCRAFT N NUMBER: 51RX

MAKE: \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL: \_\_\_\_\_

CUSTOMER NAME: Elite Med Tran PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*I hereby authorize these services to be performed by Southwest Aviation\*\*

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

WINDSHIELD YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_  
GLASS \_\_\_\_\_ PLASTIC \_\_\_\_\_

OIL TYPE: \_\_\_\_\_

REQUESTED LEVEL L: \_\_\_\_\_ R: \_\_\_\_\_  
CHECKED LEVEL L: \_\_\_\_\_ R: \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL ADDED L: \_\_\_\_\_ R: \_\_\_\_\_

TIEDOWN NUMBER OF NIGHTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
SINGLE: \_\_\_\_\_ MULTI: \_\_\_\_\_  
RAMP: \_\_\_\_\_ SUNSHADE: \_\_\_\_\_ HANGAR: \_\_\_\_\_

FUEL TYPE 100LL \_\_\_\_\_ JET-A X

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTALIZER 1 0.1 TOTALIZER 2 0.1

END 9 3 3 2 END [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

START 9 2 9 2 START [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

TOTAL [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] TOTAL [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

METER 1 [ ] [ ] 4 0 0 METER 2 [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

TOTAL [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

SERVICED BY: DC DATE: 8-27-14 TIME: 18:43

ORDER #: 25 INVOICE #: 28551

**JET-2**

Initialed - Dated - Timed  
by Line Service Tech




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## Fuel payment slip:

Because this aircraft was a regular customer and had a direct billing account, when aircraft N-number was entered, billing computer “knew” that’s what this aircraft used.

It looked right to pilot, so he signed it.

  
Phillips 66 Aviation Fuel

Airport: LRU1  
Southwest Aviation Inc  
Las Cruces, NM

Transaction: 08/27/2014 19:46:08

Ship Date: 08/27/2014

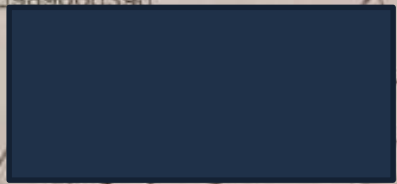
Ticket: 028551 Aircraft: N51RX

	Qty	Price
Aviation Gas	40	0.00
		\$ .00

Customer Agrees to Pay the above Total Amount according to the Card Issuer Agreement.

• Phillips 66 Company

ELITE MEDICAL AIR  
TRANSPORT, LLC  
6989000390

  
Customer Signature

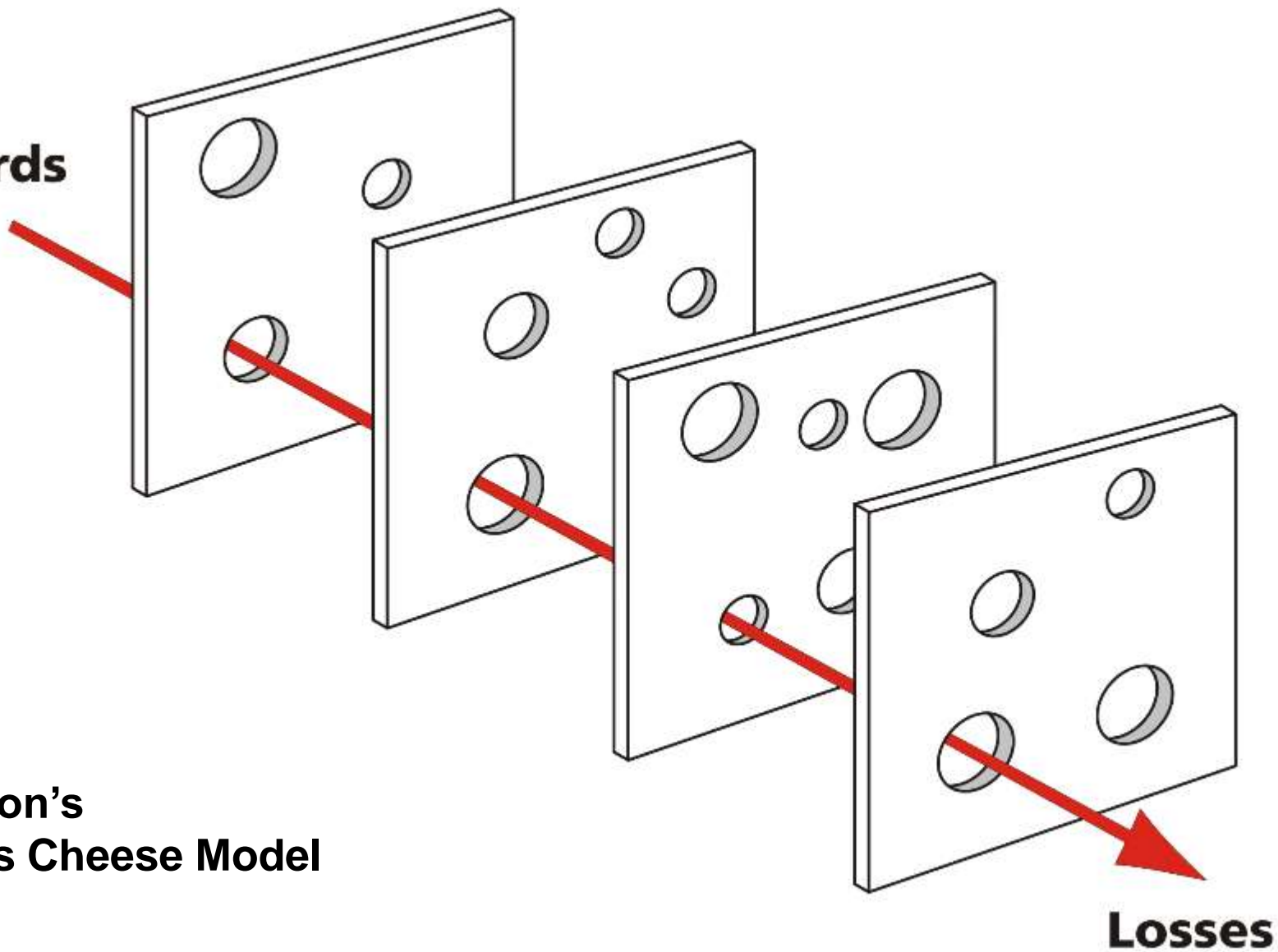


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**Hazards**

**Reason's  
Swiss Cheese Model**



**NTSB**

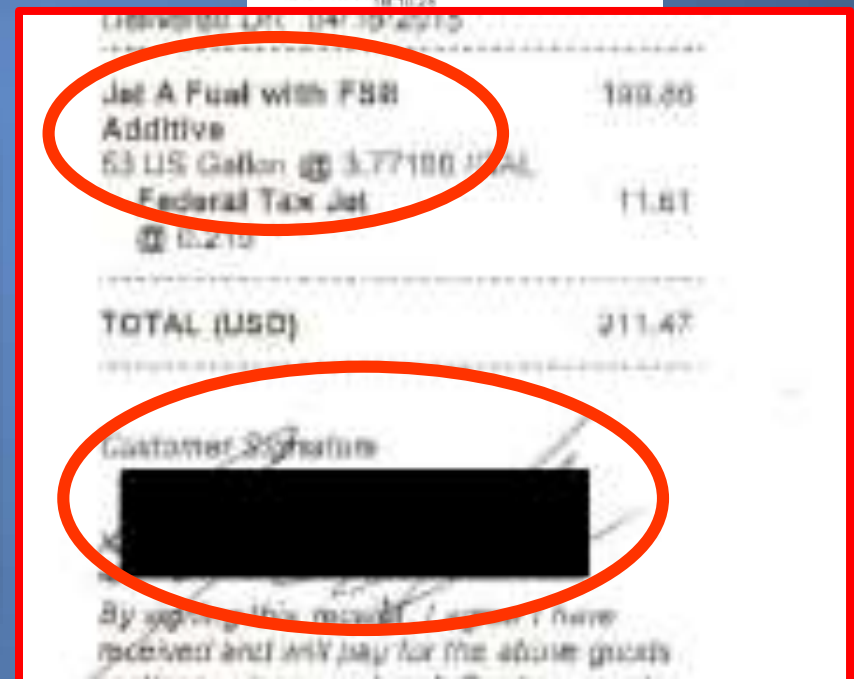


August 27, 2014





April 17, 2015. Diboll, TX



and/or services rendered. Card payments are governed by card issuer agreement.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!  
Find Avfuel Worldwide at [www.avfuel.com](http://www.avfuel.com)



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Requires Avgas



Requires Jet Fuel



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# 2016 NTSB Most Wanted List

- Disconnect from Deadly Distractions
- Reduce Fatigue-Related Accidents
- Improve Rail Transit Safety Oversight
- Promote Collision Avoidance Technologies in Highway Vehicles
- Strengthen Occupant Protection
- Prevent Loss of Control in General Aviation
- Promote Completion of Rail Safety Initiatives
- End Substance Impairment in Transportation
- Require Medical Fitness for Duty
- Expand use of Recorders to Enhance Transportation Safety



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# Prevent Loss of Control in General Aviation



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# Defining Events – Part 91 Ops

Business	Instruction	Personal
1. Loss of Control	1. Loss of Control	1. Loss of Control
2. CFIT	2. Midair	2. Powerplant Fail
3. Fuel	3. Powerplant Fail	3. CFIT
4. Component Fail	4. CFIT	4. Other
5. Powerplant Fail	5. Other	5. Component Fail

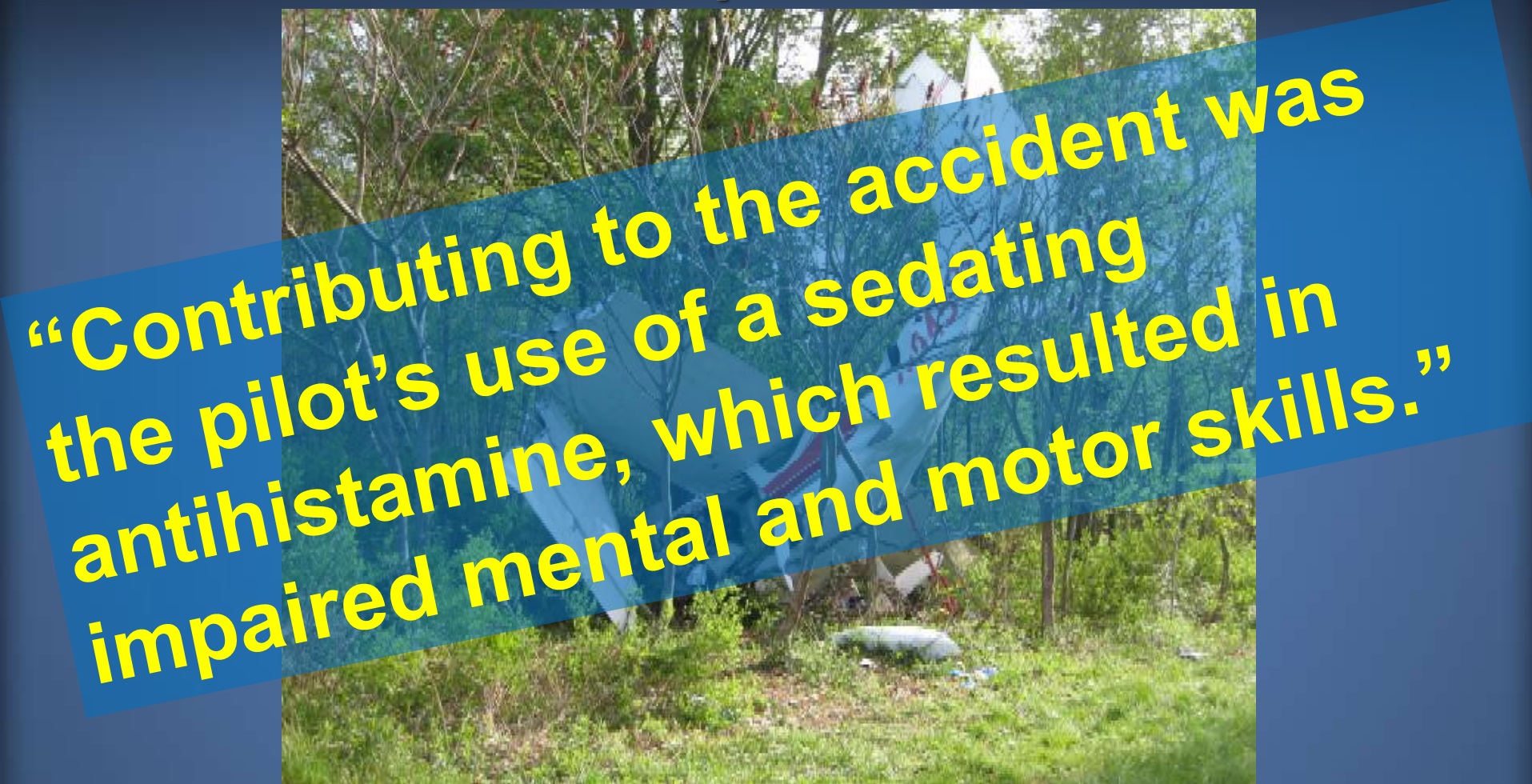
## FACT

Between 2008 and 2014, appx. 47 percent of fatal fixed-wing GA accidents were Loss of Control.

These accidents claimed over 1200 lives.



# End Substance Impairment in Transportation

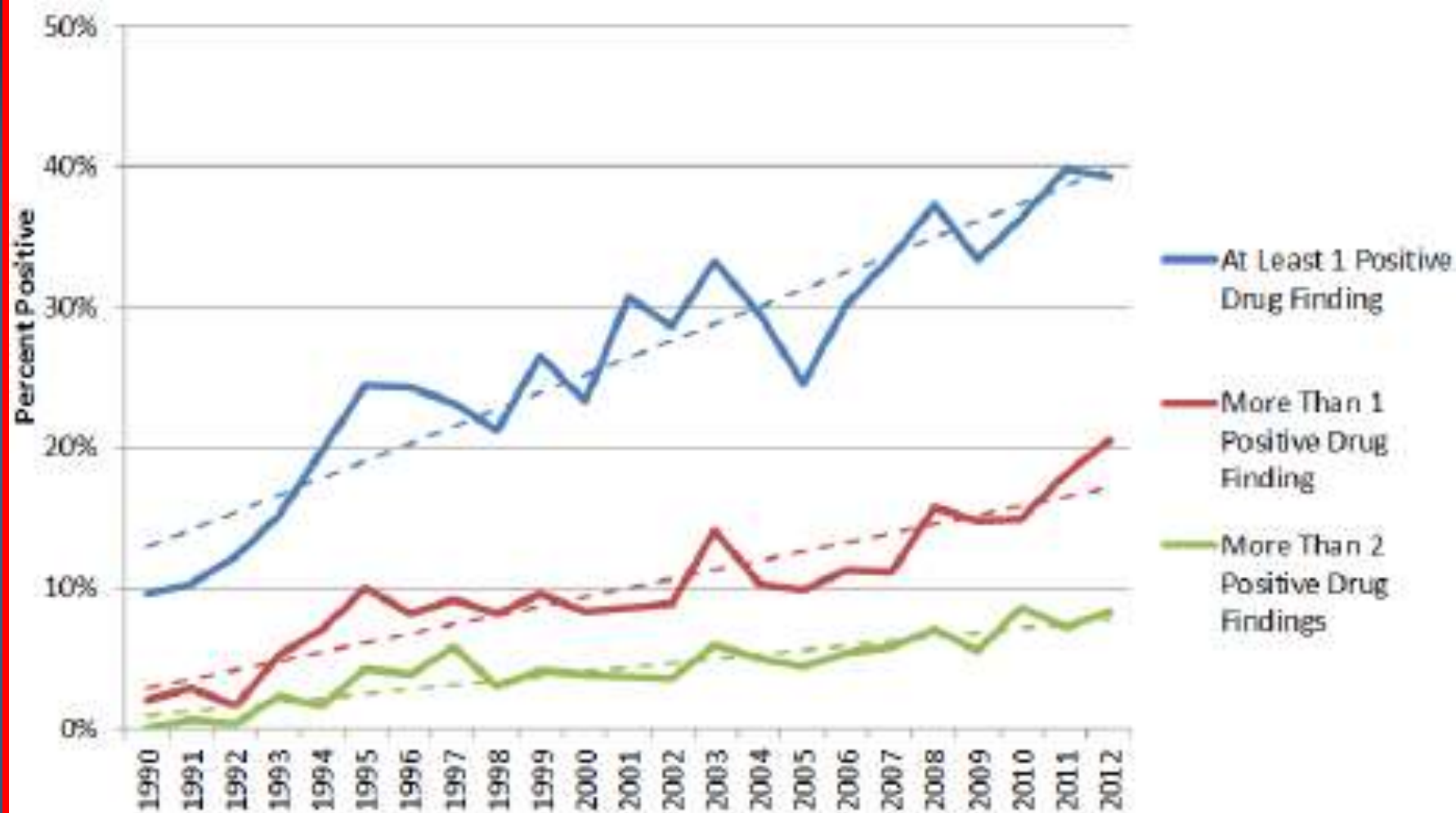


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# End Substance Impairment in Transportation



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**A Few Tips**

**to Avoid This**







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**Negative Publicity Avoidance**

# Pilots' acts might have led to crash

■ Tail section of  
doomed jet found on  
ocean floor

By ERIC MALNIC, MATT SURMAN  
and MITCHELL LANDSBERG  
*Los Angeles Times*

PORT HUENEME, Calif. — Investigators are considering whether the pilots of Alaska Airlines Flight 261 unwittingly triggered their violent plunge into the Pacific Ocean by following prescribed procedures for an emergency landing, air safety officials said Thursday.

Late Thursday searchers found the tail of the jet after recovering the flight data recorder earlier in the day.

Underwater robots exploring the ocean floor found where the wreckage came to rest after the MD-83

ies, some of which are believed trapped under the debris.

National Transportation Safety Board officials raised the question about the pilots' actions after listening to a recording of the final 30 minutes that was contained in a cockpit voice recorder retrieved late Wednesday.

One NTSB official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the investigation into the crash is increasingly focusing on the pilots' actions during their preparation for an emergency landing at Los Angeles International Airport.

In hindsight, investigators say, it appears possible that a by-the-book response to the mechanical problem reported by the pilots — a "horizontal stabilizer jam" — could have sent the plane into its wild, corkscrewing descent into the sea.



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**Take the Most Conservative Approach**



# What to do?



Delay for  
better weather?

Divert?

Stop for fuel?

Go now?

Continue?

Press on?

Take the most conservative approach.



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**SOP Adherence**



# Standard Operating Procedures

- Research from over 15,000 observed airlines flights shows that when we deviate from SOPs, we are approximately three times more likely to commit additional errors with consequential results.
- “Normalization of Deviance”



# Avoid Selective Compliance



- “That is a stupid rule.”
- “I don’t have to comply with that one.”





Main Wreckage



Cessna 340A  
October 4, 2013  
4 Fatal



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Main Wreckage

**“The pilot’s failure to maintain sufficient altitude to clear a radio tower while maneuvering at low altitude and his decision to make a high-speed, low pass over the gun club.”**

Cessna 340A  
October 4, 2013  
4 Fatal



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**Be Professional**



# What is a professional?

- A mindset
  - Precise checklist usage
  - Precise compliance with SOPs and regulations
  - Staying abreast and current with knowledge and skills
  - The ability and willingness to say “I don’t know” or “I am wrong”



## START-UP

*Boosters*

INTERCOM

AVIONICS

BATT

BEACON

GENS

MAGS

FUEL L&amp;R

GEAR

MIXTURE

PROPS

*Flaps*

CLEAR PROPS START

ON

ON

*OFF*

ON

ON

ON

ON

ON

ON

DOWN */ 16*

RICH

FWD

*UP*

## NORMAL TAKE-OFF

BOOST L&amp;R

MIXTURE

PROPS

THROTTLES

ENGS

FRONT-UP

MAINS OFF

GEAR-UP

FLAPS

CLIMB-OUT

ON

RICH

FWD

FWD

GR

90 mph

100 mph

100 mph+

ZERO

BLUE+

BOOST L ON (one throttle stroke) eng GR

BOOST R ON (one throttle stroke) eng GR

BRAKES

AVIONICS

TRANSPONDER

COMM/VOR

BOOST L&amp;R

CHECK

ON

STBY

SET

OFF

CLIMB-OUT

BOOST R

BOOST L

THROTTLES

PROPS

ENGS

*gear / flap*

CRUISE

*Boost CR*

THROTTLES

PROPS

MIXTURES

COMM/VOR

OFF/CK

OFF/CK

24"

2450 RPM

GRN

*UP**OFF*

23"

2350 RPM

1400

SET

RUN-UP

*Boost*

FLAPS

ENGS

VAC

GEN L&amp;R

CARB HEAT

PROP R

PROP L

MAG R 1&amp;2

MAG L 1&amp;2

ENGS

*Boost*

CONTROLS

TRANSPONDER

LIGHTS

Comm Nav:

Trim

Radios

*off*

CHECK/UP

1700&amp;GR

+5

CHECK

CHECK &amp; LOCK

FEATHER

FEATHER

CHECK

CHECK

IDLE

*ON*

FREE &amp; CORRECT

ALT

ON

SET

Set

SET

INBOUND:

COMM

GUMPS

FLAPS

GEAR

BOOST R&amp;L

GUMPS

KD mph - 2.5 MPM

150 " - 3.0 MPM

SET

CHECK

15, 160-

DWN, 140-

ON/CK

RE-CHECK



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# Professionalism

Doing the right things,  
even when no one is watching.





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# *The* **TWIN CESSNA** *Flyer*

2016  
CONVENTION  
GUIDE  
CHARLESTON  
MARRIOTT  
CHARLESTON,  
SOUTH  
CAROLINA  
APRIL 27 - 30



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